

How Does the New Medicare Prescription Drug Coverage Impact People Like Me Who Are Enrolled in Medicaid for the Working Disabled and Medicare?

- If you participate in Medicaid for the Working Disabled and you have Medicare coverage you will receive new drug coverage under Medicare beginning January 1, 2006.
- Your Medicaid drug coverage will end on December 31, 2005. Medicaid will still continue to pay for your other health care costs.
- You are **automatically** going to receive extra help paying for the new drug's deductibles and premiums. You **do not have to sign up for assistance** for this extra help even though you may have income that is above the advertised limits for the subsidy for individuals with limited incomes.
- You will have to pay a co-payment of between \$1 and \$5 for each prescription drug.
- Enrollment in a Medicare Prescription Drug Plan begins November 15, 2005. You will receive information about the various drug plans in your area this October. You **will** need to select the drug plan that meets your needs and enroll starting November 15, 2005.
- If you do not pick a Medicare Prescription Drug Plan by December 31, 2005, you will be automatically enrolled in a drug plan and your new coverage will begin January 1, 2006. If you find another Medicare Prescription Drug Plan that better meets your needs, you can switch plans.
- The new Medicare Prescription Drug plans will cover many prescription drugs. You should make a list of all the medications that you take before you begin to look at list of drugs that are covered by each plan. If you need a specific drug that is not covered, you may apply for an exception to get the coverage for that drug.
- If you have additional questions you may contact the State Health Insurance Program at 1-800-868-9095 or Medicare at 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227). Be sure to indicate that you are a Medicare recipient and a person who receives the full Medicaid benefits package through SC's Medicaid for the Working Disabled program.

**Remember, you don't need to do anything now.
Look for your "Medicare & You 2006" handbook in October.
Select & Enroll in a Prescription Drug Plan in November 2005.**